

## **Elton Primary School & Nursery**

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Headteacher - Mr Kevin Manning

Our Ref - PARL 0993

25<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents,

I just wanted to write to you this morning following some incidents involving social media – particularly WhatsApp.

It has come to our attention that some children in our Year 5 and Year 6 classes have been typing inappropriate comments in their chats. We obviously don't have access to these WhatsApp groups but I have been told by several parents about these comments.

The rules for having a WhatsApp account is that the account holder must be 13 or older. If you have allowed your child to have access to a WhatsApp account can I just stress the importance of regularly monitoring their messages on the app.

Often social media issues from outside school do carry over into school and then cause disruption to the children's education and well-being.

We do speak to the children about appropriate behaviour online and about how they should only act as they would if they were face to face with someone. We discuss cyber bullying and e-safety: about how the children should only type things to each other that they would be happy for their parents to read. We did mention that a message can easily have a screen shot taken and then be shared to a much wider audience than they were intending.

I would appreciate your support in sharing this message at home too so that we can work together to help to keep online, and school, safe and happy places for the children.

Yours truly

Mr Manning Headteacher



